



Opening Doors, Changing Lives

DIVISION OF MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES

Vol. 4, No. 10

October 2000



Pictured at the first commission meeting are (seated from left) Pat Fain, Darin Gordon, Joanna Dammons, Carol Westlake, Jennifer Krahenbill, and Bill Schiers. Back row—Barbara Brent, Don Redden, Doria Pavini, Martha Britton, Mildred Echols and Tom Buggiey.

Community Based Services Planning Commission Developing Final Report

Commission Members

Barbara Brent
Division of Mental
Retardation Services

Martha Britton
Morristown

Tom Buggiey
Memphis

Joanna Damons
TennCare Bureau

Mildred Echols
Memphis

Rep. Mary Ann Eckles
Murfreesboro

Pat Fain
Harriman

Darin Gordon
Department of Finance
and Administration

Allen Hendry
Emory Valley Center,
Inc.
Oak Ridge

Jennifer Krahenbill
Waves Inc. Franklin

Doria Panvini
Nashville

Don Redden
Arc of Tennessee
Dickson

Bill Schiers
Arc of Washington
County

Floyd Stewart, Jr.
Whites Creek

Rep. Raymond Walker
Fairfield Glade

Carol Westlake
TN Disability Coalition
Nashville

The Community Based Services Planning Commission—charged with studying and developing a proposed strategic plan for supporting people with developmental disabilities in less restricting settings and moving people off waiting lists at a reasonable rate—began tackling this job at the August 31 initial meeting.

The group elected Carol Westlake, head of the Tennessee Disability Coalition, Nashville and Don Redden of Dickson, representing the Arc of Tennessee, as co-chair.

The group formed five subgroups around the five elements of the proposed final report:

- Guiding principles
- State of the system
- Mechanisms to build capacities
- How to get there
- How to operationalize

According to the Division of Mental Retardation Services, there are 2,033 people on the waiting list and the division has allocated \$4.88 million this year to address the needs of those individuals.

The group plans to submit its report to the governor by November 1, 2000 following five commission meetings and several subgroup meetings.

WEB POSTINGS

<http://www.state.tn.us/mental2/>

Announcements, draft policies, final policies and information bulletins all appear on our Web site. Recent activities include:

FINAL POLICIES



POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	CONTACT PERSON	EFFECTIVE DATE
00-14	Alzheimer's Disease & Down Syndrome	Ruth Givens	8/29/00
00-15	Behavioral and Mental Health Supports News Training Module	Dr. George Zukotynski	9/11/00

DMRS Reports At Status Conference

A status conference in the matter of *People First of Tennessee et al. v. Clover Bottom Developmental Center, et al.* was held on August 21, 2000. Counsel for all parties and members of the Quality Review Panel were present for this follow-up status conference regarding protection from harm.

The defendants gave a presentation regarding implementation of prior recommendations concerning protection from harm. This presentation also included additional activities designed to

improve class members' protection from harm including implementation of specific measures recommended by the Quality Review Panel in June 2000.

Barbara Brent, Deputy Commissioner, DMRS, discussed the documents previously filed by the defendants evidencing the defendants' efforts to address protection from harm issues.

The parties had an opportunity to question the defendants on the State's efforts regarding protection from harm issues. In addition, the parties had the opportunity to present reports and/or recommendations regarding protection from harm issues.

The next status conference is a follow-up status conference regarding protection from harm set for Monday, October 16, 2000 at 1:00 p.m.

New Toll-free Number

1-888-531-9876

The East Tennessee Intake Unit now has a toll-free number. This should be helpful for many families.

ADA is on the web

A federal web site is now available focusing on the American with Disabilities Act. Log on at <http://www.disability.gov>.

Title 33 on DMHDD Site

The newly passed Title 33 legislation is available on the web at <http://www.state.tn.us/mental>. Just click Title 33 button.



Opening Doors, Changing Lives

A publication of the Division of Mental Retardation Services

Don Sundquist, Governor
Dr. C. Warren Neel, Commissioner
Finance and Administration
Barbara Brent, Deputy
Commissioner, DMR Services

The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access, and affirmative action. Contact the department's EEO/AA Coordinator at (615) 532-6580, the Title VI Coordinator at (615) 532-6700 or the ADA Coordinator at (615) 532-6700 for further information. Persons with hearing impairments call (615) 532-6612.



Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Authorization No. 339315, 10,000 copies, November 1999. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.08 per

Central and Regional Information Specialists

PERSON	LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER
Larry Grimes	Central Office-Nashville	(615)532-6545	(615)532-9940
Kay Carlton	Memphis Regional Office	(901)685-3901 Ext.134	(901)685-3919
Elizabeth Gerlock	Nashville Regional Office	(615)231-5033	(615)231-5150
Fred Coe	Knoxville Regional Office	(865)588-0508 Ext.108	(865)594-5180

Toll Free Lines For Complaints or Information, Call

Central Office-Nashville	1-800-535-9725
Memphis Regional Office	1-800-308-2586
Nashville Regional Office	1-800-654-4839
Knoxville Regional Office	1-888-310-4613

Web Site

Commission on Compliance/
Division of Mental Retardation
Services Web Site:
<http://www.state.tn.us/mental2/>

State of Tennessee
Department of Finance and Administration
Division of Mental Retardation Services
Cordell Hull Building, 5th Floor, North
425 Fifth Avenue, North
Nashville, TN 37243